

# Island Times



## Environmental Investigation and Cleanup News

### Naval Station Treasure Island

Summer 2002

<http://www.eldsw.navy.mil/Environmental/TreasureIsland.htm>

This quarterly newsletter has been developed to update you about the Department of the Navy's (Navy) environmental activities taking place on Treasure Island (TI) and Yerba Buena Island (YBI). Environmental investigations and cleanup began on TI and YBI in the mid 1980s and continue today.

The Navy is conducting these actions, with oversight provided by State and Federal environmental regulatory agencies.

Please share this information with family members, friends, and representatives from any local organizations that may benefit. Individuals, businesses, and organizations can receive future newsletters by completing and returning the mailing coupon found on the back page. We also welcome your comments on this newsletter.

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#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

CERCLA Field Activities Update. . . . .	Page 1
Public Hearing. . . . .	Page 1
Soil and Groundwater Sampling Tools. . . . .	Page 3
TI Team Member Profile. . . . .	Page 4
Navy Contacts. . . . .	Page 4
Mailing Coupon. . . . .	Page 5

**FIELD ACTIVITIES UPDATE,  
COMPREHENSIVE ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE,  
COMPENSATION, AND LIABILITY ACT (CERCLA) SITES**  
(Bolded terms are described in the accompanying article:  
Soil and Groundwater Sampling Tools)

#### Site 7

Sampling at Site 07 (Building 62) was completed during the week of April 8, 2002. Twenty-eight samples were collected by hand from the surface soils beneath Building 62. Twelve shallow soil samples were collected from four **Geoprobe** borings on the west side of the building, adjacent to the active wastewater treatment plant. The purpose of the sampling was to determine whether there was historical contamination from paint or pesticides at Building 62. Contaminants of potential concern include pesticides, herbicides, semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), metals, and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). During the field investigation, no indications of contamination were noted with the field screening instruments. The Navy is currently awaiting receipt of the analytical results for the 40 samples that were submitted for chemical analysis. Following data evaluation, a report will be completed to summarize the findings and make recommendations for future steps.

*continued on page 2*

#### PUBLIC HEARING

A Public Hearing for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for Disposal and Reuse of Naval Station Treasure Island will be held on Tuesday, June 11, 2002 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Nimitz Conference Center, Building 140, corner of "D" and California Streets, Treasure Island, for the purpose of receiving oral and written comments on the DEIS. For further information, please contact Ms. Timarie Seneca, Community Planner, BRAC Operations Office at (619) 532-0955, by fax at (619) 532-0940, or by writing to Commander, Southwest Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Attn: Ms. Timarie Seneca, Code 06CM.TS, 1230 Columbia Street, Suite 1100, San Diego CA 92101-8517. Comments must be postmarked by June 24, 2002 to be considered in this environmental review process.

#### TI/YBI HISTORICAL FACT QUESTION

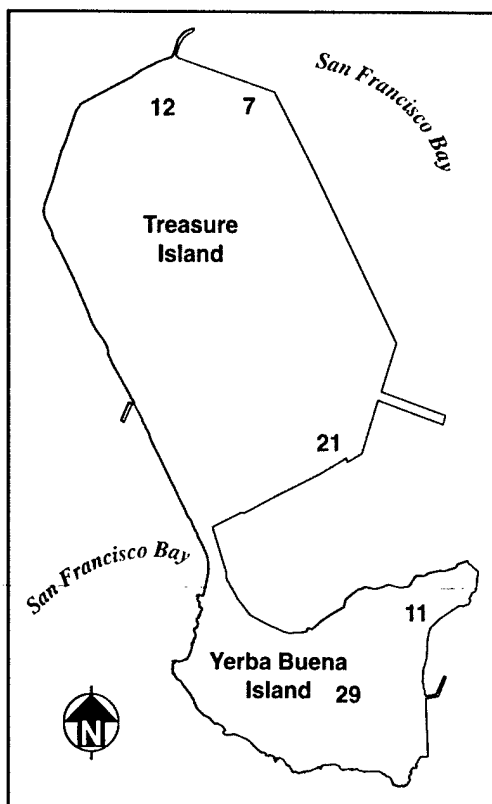
*What Navy vessel that served at Pearl Harbor on  
December 7, 1941 was once temporarily berthed  
at Treasure Island?*

**Answer on Page 5**

continued from page 1

#### Site 11

Sampling at Site 11 (former Yerba Buena Island Landfill) located on YBI was conducted during the week of February 18, 2002. Thirty-six soil samples were collected from 11 trenches, 23 test pits, and 2 soil borings at the landfill. In addition, a **Hollow-Stemmed Auger** was used to install two **monitoring wells**. Groundwater samples were collected from the two new monitoring wells and six existing monitoring wells. The soil and groundwater samples were collected as part of the plan to delineate the physical boundaries of the landfill, characterize the chemicals in the soil associated with the landfill waste, characterize the groundwater quality, evaluate the potential for the contaminants to migrate into San Francisco Bay, and to enable selection of a cleanup method. The Navy will also be working with CALTRANS to coordinate Site 11 investigation and cleanup with the construction of the new East Span of the Bay Bridge. Site 11 is also now on CALTRANS owned Bay Bridge right of way property.



**CERCLA Sites at TI/YBI**

#### Site 11 and 29

Supplemental sampling to determine the extent of lead contamination in the surface soils at YBI Sites 11 and 29 (former Landfill and Bay Bridge East Side Right of Way and Ramps) was completed during the week of April 17, 2002. Fifteen surface soil samples were collected using **hand sampling** from Site 29 and eight surface soil samples were collected from Site 11. All 23 samples were analyzed for lead in order to help determine the magnitude and extent of lead contamination in the surface soils. The Navy is awaiting receipt of the analytical results. Following data evaluation, a remedial investigation (RI) report will be completed in order to summarize findings, evaluate the risk, and provide recommendations for further steps.

#### Site 12

During March and April 2002, air samples were collected from within the buildings of Halyburton Court and analyzed for PCBs as part of the investigation for the Former Storage Yard soil removal conducted in the Summer of 2000. The Navy is evaluating the analytical results to determine what additional steps may be necessary at the vacant buildings within the soil removal area. The Navy is also developing a draft Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) to address other areas of Site 12.

#### Site 21

The latest round of groundwater sampling at Site 21 (former Vessel Waste Oil Recovery Area) took place during the week of May 13, 2002. Groundwater samples were collected from 25 **monitoring wells** as part of the ongoing investigation to determine the extent of VOCs in the groundwater. Samples will be analyzed to gauge natural degradation of those VOCs. Current data indicates that the contaminant plume appears to be concentrated in a small area just south of Building 3. Following receipt and evaluation of all analytical data, the Navy plans to evaluate the human health and ecological risk associated with the groundwater VOCs in a report, and provide recommendations for further steps. (Groundwater at TI is below the surface and is not used. Since TI was constructed, water has been piped to the island and to YBI over the Bay Bridge from San Francisco.)

During the field investigation, a fairly continuous layer of hydrocarbon-stained fill material was observed and assumed to be associated with burnt landfill debris. The landfill debris was predominantly construction debris consisting of steel, concrete, brick, and wood. Soil and groundwater samples were analyzed for a full range of contaminants, including volatile organic compounds (VOCs), SVOCs, pesticides, PCB, petroleum hydrocarbons, and metals. Some elevated concentrations of contaminants were reported in the analytical results, and the Navy is currently evaluating the data.

#### UPCOMING RAB MEETINGS

[http://www.efds.w.navy.mil/  
environmental/ncrabschedule.htm](http://www.efds.w.navy.mil/environmental/ncrabschedule.htm)

Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup> 2002  
Tuesday, July 16<sup>th</sup> 2002  
Tuesday, August 20<sup>nd</sup> 2002

## SOIL AND GROUNDWATER SAMPLING TOOLS

Tools are very important to effective sampling and are evolving continually to provide faster and more accurate data. When collecting soil and groundwater samples, several different methods and tools are used depending primarily on the type of sample and the sample depth needed.

**Hand Sampling** - A technician in the field takes a small amount of surface soil with a trowel or scoop and places it in an appropriate sample container, typically a jar.

**Hand Auger** - A stainless-steel threaded tube with small teeth on one end, and a handle on the other end. The auger is twisted into the ground manually to loosen the soil enough to fill the tube with soil. The hand auger is used to collect shallow soil samples from 0 to 5 feet below the ground surface.

**Geoprobe** - Also known as a hydraulic punch or hydropunch. The Geoprobe is a truck mounted hydraulic sampling tube. The tube, typically a diameter of 2 or 4 inches, is pushed hydraulically into the ground to extract a column of soil. Alternatively, a length of tubing can be inserted through the tube to allow for the collection of groundwater samples. The Geoprobe is used to collect soil and groundwater samples up to 75 feet below ground surface. A Geoprobe is also the tool used for sampling soil gas. Teflon tubing attached to a vacuum pump is inserted into the stainless steel tube and a sample from the space surrounding the soil particles is collected. Soil gas analysis is typically used to investigate VOCs including methane and solvents.



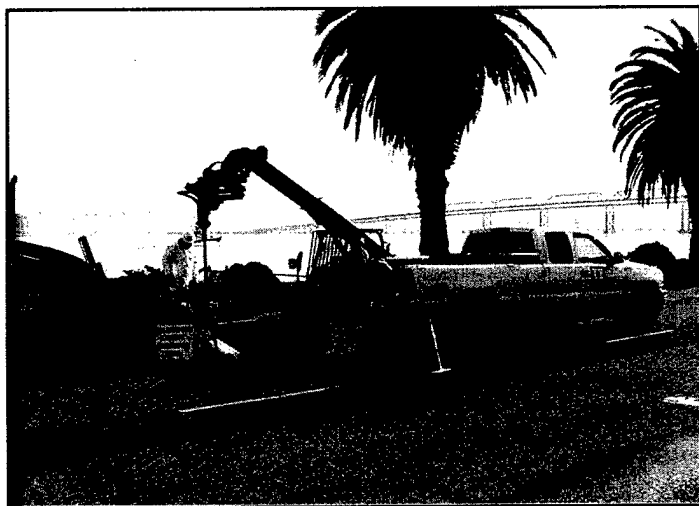
**Hollow-stemmed auger being used at 5th Street on Treasure Island, January 2001**

**Hollow-Stemmed Auger** - A large truck with a mounted drilling rig. This auger is used to collect samples up to 400 feet below ground surface and also to drill wells. Instead of hydraulically pushing a sample tube like the Geoprobe, the auger drills through the soil.

**Monitoring Well** - The Geoprobe or hollow-stemmed auger is used to create a hole to reach groundwater. After a hole has been drilled, a monitoring well is installed so that groundwater can be monitored and samples collected on an annual, semi-annual, or quarterly basis. Monitoring wells at TI range in depth from approximately 10-50 feet below ground surface.

All soil and groundwater samples gathered in the field are collected following guidelines described in a project-specific sampling and analysis plan (SAP). This SAP ensures the precision and accuracy of samples collected and the data results. This plan also ensures that the sampling and analysis methods are sufficient to meet project goals. Components of the plan include: collecting field quality control samples that show that equipment was clean before samples were collected, chain-of-custody requirements that describe how samples will be sent from the field to the laboratory, and analytical methods to be used by laboratories.

Once samples of soil and groundwater are collected, they are sent to Navy-approved and State of California-certified laboratories for analysis. The samples are analyzed for a variety of contaminants under rigorous testing conditions. The data are then provided to the Navy and regulatory agencies, who interpret the results and make recommendations regarding further site activities, including further investigation or cleanup.



**Modified approach using auger-mounted forklift to prevent trench sidewall collapse, Avenue N, December 2001**

## NEWSLETTER NOW AVAILABLE VIA INTERNET AND E-MAIL

Did you know that the *Island Times* is available on the web? In response to requests from various individuals and groups for more information via the web, and to improve access to environmental cleanup information at TI and YBI, this newsletter and other documents are now available on the internet. For this issue and previous issues point your browser to:

<http://www.efdswnavfac.navy.mil/environmental/treasureisland.htm>

Use the mailing coupon on the back page of this newsletter and give us your e-mail address if you would prefer to receive future issues of the *Island Times* via e-mail. We will make sure to send you all future issues electronically.

The mailing list update form is also available to add people to the distribution list or update your mailing address. Please fill out and return the form or pass it along to someone who may be interested.

### NAVY CONTACTS

Name/Title	Organization	Phone	Address	E-mail
James Sullivan BRAC Environmental Coordinator	Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Southwest Division	(619) 532-0966 Fax: (619) 532-0983	1230 Columbia St., Suite 1100 San Diego, CA 92101	sullivanjh@efdswnavfac.navy.mil
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### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Your concerns, comments  
and questions are important  
and welcomed.

To reach us, please contact the  
Navy Environmental Liaison for TI:

Steve Edde

410 Palm Avenue, Room 161  
Treasure Island, San Francisco  
California 94130

telephone: (415) 743-4704

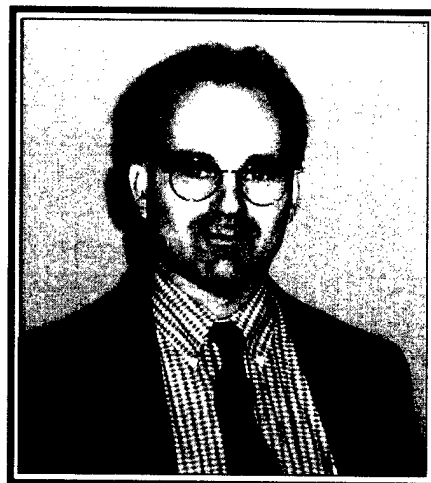
e-mail:

[eddesl@efdswnavfac.navy.mil](mailto:eddesl@efdswnavfac.navy.mil)

### TI TEAM MEMBER PROFILE

Who is the last member of the former Naval Station Treasure Island staff still working at TI? That would be James (Jim) Sullivan, the Navy's Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Environmental Coordinator (BEC) for TI. As the Navy BEC for TI since BECs were first designated in 1993, Jim has worked as a member of the BRAC Cleanup Team (BCT) to plan and conduct environmental investigations and cleanup at TI and YBI. He is also the Navy Co-Chair for the TIRestoration Advisory Board (RAB). Jim also served as the Naval Station's Environmental Manager from 1991 until the base closed on September 30, 1997, and prior to that was on active duty in the US Navy at TI during 1990.

He currently travels between offices at the Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southwest Division in San Diego and at TI. Jim is a native of Chicago and earned Bachelor's degrees in Mathematics-Physics from Saint Joseph's College in Rensselaer Indiana and in Civil Engineering from the University of Illinois in Urbana.



### INFORMATION REPOSITORIES

The Navy maintains two information repositories for TI that contain project documents and other reference materials related to cleanup of TI and YBI. You are encouraged to review the documents to gain a more complete understanding of the environmental work.

#### **City of San Francisco Main Library**

Science, Technical, and Government Documents Room  
100 Larkin Street  
San Francisco, California 94102  
(415) 557-4500

#### **Navy Southwest Detachment – Treasure Island**

410 Palm Avenue, Room 161, Building 1  
San Francisco, California 94130  
(415) 743-4704

### TI/YBI HISTORICAL FACT ANSWER

*The former Yard Tug USS Hoga (YTM-146) is the last operable Navy vessel to have been present at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. It was temporarily berthed at Treasure Island's Pier 1 during 1996-97 after having been returned to the US Navy by the City of Oakland after service as Oakland's fire boat since 1948. The Hoga, named after the Sioux word for "fish", was launched on December 31, 1940 and accepted into the fleet on July 12, 1941. During the December 7<sup>th</sup> attack, USS Hoga fought fires on ships along battleship row and assisted the damaged battleship USS Nevada to beach itself, preventing the Nevada from sinking and blocking the main entrance channel to Pearl Harbor. Hoga is currently berthed in Suisun Bay awaiting museum donation.*

### TI MAILING COUPON

To better serve the community of TI, we are continually updating our mailing list. Please complete the information form and return it to us.

**1. Yes, please add me to the TI mailing list.**

I would like to receive (check all that apply):

- ☐ quarterly newsletters and fact sheets  
☐ monthly RAB meeting agendas, minutes, and notices of upcoming meetings

**2. I would prefer to receive mailers by**

(please check one box and then complete all information in the mailing coupon on the back page):

- ☐ US Mail      ☐ E-mail

**3. Please delete me from the mailing list.**

☐ I do not want to receive TI mail.

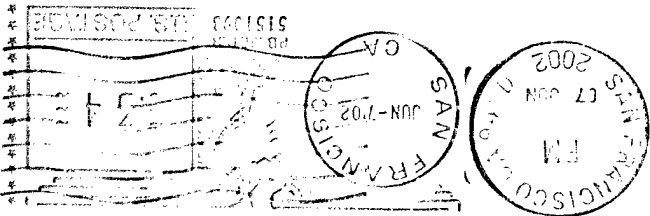
**4. I have been receiving extra mailings.** Please provide the correct mailing address in the coupon on the back page.  
All other addresses will be deleted.

**5. ☐ I am interested in receiving information on the RAB.**

Please return by US Mail or fax to: Steve Edde, Navy Southwest Detachment, 415-743-4700.

DTIC Customer Service Help Desk DTIC  
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### Mailing Coupon

If you would like to be added to the TI/YBI mailing list and receive copies of future newsletters and fact sheets, please fill out the coupon below and mail it to:

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Room 161, Building 1  
Treasure Island, San Francisco, CA 94130-1802

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